

# Amber McWilliams Memorial Scholarship in English or Drama

<b>Code:</b>	1048
<b>Faculty:</b>	Arts
<b>Applicable study:</b>	BA(Hons), PGDip or MA in English or Drama
<b>Closing date:</b>	1 February 2024
<b>Tenure:</b>	One year
<b>For:</b>	Assistance with study
<b>Number on offer:</b>	One
<b>Offer rate:</b>	Annually
<b>Value:</b>	Up to \$10,000 or tuition fees for 120 points of study

## Description

The Scholarship was established in 2019 and is funded by Professor Joanne Wilkes in memory of Dr Amber McWilliams (1975-2018). Amber McWilliams studied at the University of Auckland, completing both a Masters degree and a PhD in English. She went on to work as a tutor and lecturer in English and Drama at the University of Auckland, and taught a Medical Humanities paper at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

The intention of the Scholarship is to encourage and support a student to undertake postgraduate study in English or Drama at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.

## Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

## Regulations

1. The Scholarship will be known as the Amber McWilliams Memorial Scholarship in English or Drama.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded annually, for a period of one year and will be of the value of \$10,000. Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students (see Notes I and II).
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must be i) a citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand, ii) enrolled full-time or part-time at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland in a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (BA(Hons)), Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (PGDipArts) or the first 120 points of a 180 point Master of Arts (MA), in English or Drama in the year of the award. A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of at least 7.00 (6.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) in the applicant's most recent qualifying programme for postgraduate study is required for Scholarship consideration (see Note III).
4. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the applicant's GPA/GPE in the final 120 points of

undergraduate study in the subject intended for postgraduate study (English or Drama), and financial need as assessed by a personal statement and the criteria at Note IV.

5. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Arts (or nominee), the Major/Specialisation Leader of English and Drama (or nominee), and one representative of Amber McWilliams's family.
6. The Scholarship will be paid either in two equal instalments in Semester One and Two or as a compulsory fees credit in each semester of enrolment up to a total of 120 points of study, as soon as is practical after confirmation of the awardee's enrolment (that is, after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee (see Notes I and II).
7. To be paid the Scholarship, the awardee must be enrolled in a BA(Hons), PGDipArts, or the first 120 points of a 180 point MA, in English or Drama.
8. The Amber McWilliams Memorial Scholarship in English or Drama may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as the Regulations for that scholarship, award or grant permit and where the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves. It is the responsibility of the awardee to declare to the Scholarships Office all other scholarships, awards or grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Scholarship.
9. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award in any year if there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.
10. The University of Auckland Council, in consultation with the donor, has the power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress of a Scholar from the Associate Dean (Postgraduate) of the Faculty of Arts.
11. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
12. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 1 February in the year of the award.
13. Notes [I] – [VI] below are deemed to be Regulations.

## Notes

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- I. The Scholarship may be taken up in either the first or second semester in the year of the award.*
- II. Compulsory fees are only those related to the relevant programme of study, plus Student Services Fee.*
- III. The most recent qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying. Where the most recently completed programme is a conjoint programme the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the relevant component of the conjoint programme. The maximum approved exchange or transfer credit that can be excluded from the GPA/GPE calculation for the qualifying programme is 60 points. Where a bridging programme, including a Transitional Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Certificate of Proficiency, is required to qualify the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying or are currently enrolled, the qualifying programme is the bridging programme and the most recently completed prior programme.*
- IV. Financial need will be determined by a range of factors including current or past eligibility for a StudyLink Student Allowance, and personal financial circumstances.*
- V. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free as long as they are used for the payment of costs associated with an awardee's programme of study and/or to assist the awardee with living costs while studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.*
- VI. Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment or funding status. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.*